

# Psalms 94:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.

## Analysis

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The targeting of the most vulnerable—widow, stranger (ger—sojourner, immigrant), and fatherless (yatōm—orphan)—demonstrates the depth of wickedness. These three groups appear repeatedly in Torah as specially protected by God (Exodus 22:22-24, Deuteronomy 10:18, 24:17). Murdering (ratsach—unlawful killing) those least able to defend themselves reveals complete moral bankruptcy. This verse establishes God's special concern for the vulnerable and His fierce opposition to those who exploit them.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern law codes (including Torah) included protections for these vulnerable classes, making their murder particularly heinous violations of both divine and human law.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does your treatment of vulnerable people reflect your understanding of God's values?
2. What 'widows, strangers, and orphans' in your context need you to stand up for them?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶלְמָנָה וְגַם יִבְרְכֵנָה וְיִתְּמַמֵּן וְיִכְּאַחֲרֵי  
the widow and the stranger They slay the fatherless and murder  
H490 H1616 H2026 H3490 H7523

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 10:2** (Parallel theme): To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

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